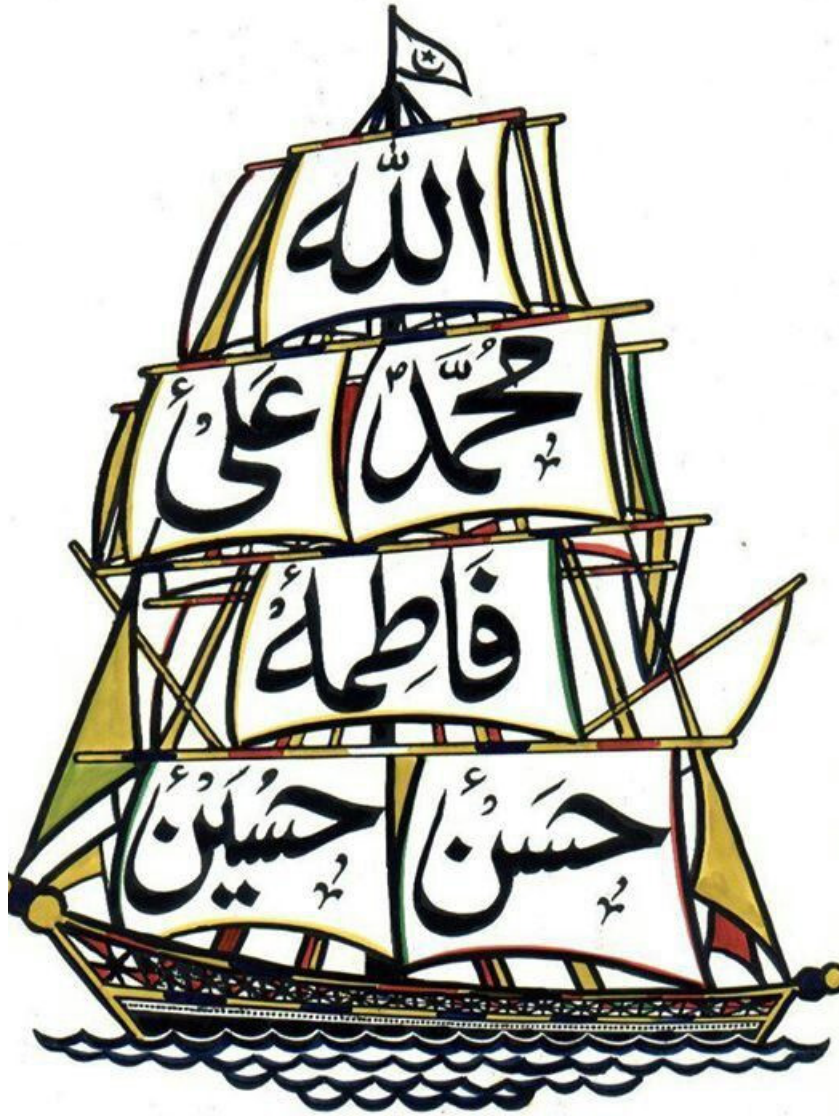


# THE PATH OF AHLUL'BAYT (AS)



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# INTELLECT



Allah, the Wise, has said:

تَعْلَمُونَ فَلَا أَأَبْقَى وَ خَيْرُ اللَّهِ عِنْدَ مَا وَ

**"And whatever is with Allah is better and more lasting; do you not then understand."** [Suratul Qasas (28), Verse 60]

Imam Sadiq (a.s) said:

الْعَاقِلُ بَلَغَ مَا عِبَادَتِهِمْ فَضْلُ فِي الْعَابِدِينَ جَمِيعُ بَلَغَ لَا

**"All the worshippers, despite the excellence of their worship, do not achieve what a person with intellect achieves."** [Jami~ al-Sa~adat, vol. 1, pg. 111]

## Short Explanation

O' Lord! What have you not granted those, to whom You have granted intellect, and what have you granted those, to whom You have not granted intellect! [Khawajah ~Abdullah Ansari]

The personality of a person is founded upon his intellect and one who does not seek the

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assistance of this faculty in his affairs shall suffer loss and harm.

Intellect is one of the Divine soldiers, and an internal argument and proof. Intellect, irrespective of whether it is inherently possessed or empirically achieved, brings about progress and advancement of man.

The Prophets used to guide the people by speaking to them in accordance with their intellectual capabilities, and on the Day of Judgment, Allah shall reckon the deeds of his servants according to the measure of their understanding and intellect. Blind-following brings about eternal damnation in the hereafter - as was the case with Bani Israel who, in a fit of fanaticism and foolishness, killed 70 Divine Prophets in one day!

### **Imam Ali (AS) and the Astrologer**

There are some who are heedless with respect to reflection, reasoning and tawakkul, and instead, turn to soothsayers and astrologers, who have cleverly started their business in order to swindle the people of their money.[ Of course, the issue of the auliya of Allah and those, who have strived towards spiritual purification, differ vastly from the others, for their words are light (nur) and if, at times, they were to say something to someone, it would surely occur and hence such personalities should not be compared to the others.] AS an example, here is an incident that transpired during the time of Imam Ali (a.s). The Commander of the Faithful(a.s) and his army had started out for the battle of Nahrawan against the Kharjites, and having reached the city of Madain, they pitched their tents. The next morning, as they were about to commence their journey, an astrologer approached them and said: "My astrological calculations reveal that it is not in your interest to advance in this hour. Commence your journey after three hours and you shall be victorious."

Hearing this, the Imam (a.s) said: "Whoever upholds your words has rejected the Qur'an of Allah." [ Surat Luqman (31), Verse 34: **الَّذِينَ يَرْتَابُونَ فِي مَا يَأْتِيهِمْ مِنَ الذِّكْرِ وَالَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَ أَهْوَاءَهُمْ وَتَأْتِيهِمْ بَغْضَاتُ يَوْمٍ** ]

He (a.s) then asked: "Do you possess knowledge as to which family has taken over the reins of leadership in China?"

The astrologer replied: "I have no knowledge."

The Imam (a.s) questioned: "What is that star, which when rises, stirs up lust within the camels?"

The astrologer confessed: "I have no idea."

The Imam (a.s) asked: "The rise of which star stirs up passion within the cats?"

He said: "I do not know!"

He (a.s) asked: "Inform me of the thing that is concealed beneath the hoofs of my horse."

When the astrologer had once again pleaded ignorance, the Imam (a.s) said to him: "Within the earth, below the feet of my horse, lies a jar filled with gold coins and beneath which a serpent lies asleep."

When the place was dug up, the people witnessed that the scenario was exactly as it had been described by the Imam (a.s).

Observing this, the astrologer was totally bewildered; the Imam (a.s) took possession of his books, ordered them to be destroyed and then said to him: "The next time you try to attract the people towards yourself by means of astrology, I shall put you behind bars." [

Jame' al-Nurain, pg. 15; Bihar al-Anwar]

### **The Consequence of Foolishness**

In the biography of Hajjaj Ibn Yusuf Thaqafi - the bloodthirsty Umayyad, it has been reported that his mother, Fari'ah, had initially been the wife of Harith Ibn Kaldah - a well-known doctor, who divorced her when she picked her teeth at an inopportune time; it was later that she entered into the wedlock of Yusuf Ibn 'Aqil Thaqafi.

Hajjaj, at the time of his birth, did not possess an excretory opening; left with no other option, his parents were forced to create an opening in his rear.

In addition to this, he would also not drink the milk from the breast of his mother and this left the parents worried and wondering as to what should be done.

One day, an evil person approached them and instructed them that in order to remedy this problem they should kill a black goat and make Hajjaj drink its blood. When the goat was killed and the blood put into his mouth, Hajjaj began sucking and licking it. The following day the person directed them to kill a goat and pour its blood into his mouth. On the third day he ordered them to kill a black snake, pour its blood into his mouth and rub it upon his face as well whereupon from the fourth day onwards Hajjaj began feeding himself with the milk of his mother.

As a result of this ignorant act, he grew up into such a savage and bloodthirsty individual that he would say: "I derive maximum pleasure by shedding blood - especially the blood of the descendents of the Noble Prophet (s.a.w)."

He was appointed governor and the commander of the army by 'Abdul Malik Ibn Marwan and ruled for twenty years till he died in the year 95 ah (during the rule of Walid Ibn 'Abdul Malik) at the age of fifty four.

In the course of this period he killed a hundred and twenty thousand people, and at the time of his death, his roofless prison contained fifty thousand male and thirty thousand female prisoners - majority of them bare and unclothed.

Amongst those killed by this cruel tyrant were Kumail Ibn Ziyad Nakha'i - the companion of Ali (a.s), Qambar - the slave of Ali (a.s), Yahya Ibn Umm al-Tawil - a companion of Imam Sajjad (a.s), Sa'id Ibn Jubair, who has been greatly praised and commended by Imam Sajjad (a.s) and numerous other celebrated personalities.[ Tatimmah al-Muntaha, pg. 66]

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**Remember, Ameerul Mumineen Imam Ali Ibn Abu Talib (AS) said:-**

**“Love of the world corrupts the intellect, it deafens the heart from hearing wisdom and it brings about a painful chastisement.”**

**WASALAAM**

**ESOOFI ABD'IL QADER**